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JANUARY 16, 1961

Kennedy and His Aides Take Over

Incoming President Faces Big National & World Issues As New Job Starts

JOHAN F. Kennedy, taking over the Presidency on January 20, faces tough problems within the United States and serious crises abroad.

Overseas matters that call for his attention include continuing strife in the Congo, political turmoil in Belgium, warfare in Laos, worsening U. S. relations with Cuba, and the United Nations' inability to deal effectively with major world issues. Here at home, unemployment is increasing and there are other signs of economic trouble.

In handling such problems, the new President will work through an extensive network of federal departments and agencies. Some important offices in the Executive Branch of our government, which he is to head, are shown on the accompanying chart (page 3).

Listed near the top we see several agencies that will work in very close relationship with the President himself. These, grouped within the *Executive Office of the President*, include:

White House Office—the President's personal staff of secretaries and assistants.

Bureau of the Budget. Under the Chief Executive's direction, it prepares the recommendations on government spending that he forwards to Congress.

Council of Economic Advisers. This 3-member group draws up reports on U. S. economic conditions.

National Aeronautics and Space Council. It includes top-ranking government officials, and is intended to promote cooperation among various departments and agencies on space research. Mr. Kennedy has named incoming Vice President Lyndon Johnson to head the group.

National Security Council—consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, and Civil Defense Director. The President, with Senate approval, can bring in certain other officials. This group makes overall surveys of U. S. foreign relations and defense policy. The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), which gathers confidential information about foreign countries, works directly under the National Security Council.

NOTICE

Because of critical developments in Laos, our main foreign article this week deals with that Asian land (see page 6) instead of India, as announced last week.



JOHN KENNEDY is first Democratic President since Harry Truman—shown here at his inauguration in 1949

Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization. It seeks to keep the "home front" prepared for war emergencies.

The 10 Departments Of Cabinet Rank

State. Dean Rusk, age 51, is to be Mr. Kennedy's Secretary of State. He has held various federal posts, and since 1952 has headed the Rockefeller Foundation—a private institution that promotes scientific research and many other activities at home and overseas.

As Secretary of State he will be in charge of our country's global relations, and will supervise thousands of diplomats and other Foreign Service workers all over the world. Adlai Stevenson, incoming Ambassador to

the United Nations, is to be one of Mr. Rusk's chief assistants. Another will be Averell Harriman, slated to serve as a top-level "roving representative" of the President and the Secretary of State.

Treasury. Douglas Dillon, 51, is to become Secretary of the Treasury. He has been Under Secretary of State in the outgoing Administration.

Heading the Treasury Department, he will be America's chief financial officer. The department includes such branches as the Internal Revenue Service, which collects federal taxes; and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, which furnishes our paper currency.

Defense. Robert McNamara, 44, will serve as Secretary of Defense.

He has recently been president of the Ford Motor Company. Operations of the huge Defense Department, which Mr. McNamara will supervise, were described in this paper last week.

Justice. Robert Kennedy, 35, brother of the new President, will control the Justice Department as Attorney General. He has spent a number of years doing legal work for Senate investigating committees.

The Department of Justice is the chief legal body within the Executive Branch of our government. Well known among its agencies is the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), headed by J. Edgar Hoover.

Post Office. J. Edward Day, 46, is to be Postmaster General, top official (Concluded on page 2)

Kennedy and His Aides Take Over

(Concluded from page 1)

of the Post Office Department. During recent years he has been a Los Angeles insurance executive.

Mr. Day's past experience with private business should help him in running one of the biggest businesses in the world—the U. S. postal system.

Interior. Stewart Udall, 41 this month, will become Secretary of the Interior. For the last 6 years he has been a U. S. representative from Arizona.



Johnson

Stevenson

The Interior Department is concerned primarily with handling natural resources and managing federal lands—including national parks and national monuments. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, in this department, is the principal government agency dealing with American Indians and their problems.

Agriculture. Orville Freeman, 42, Governor of Minnesota since 1955, is to be Mr. Kennedy's Secretary of Agriculture.

The Agriculture Department, which he will direct, conducts a variety of programs to assist farmers. For example, it promotes soil conservation and seeks to develop new uses for farm products. One of its main jobs is the administration of federal laws designed to control crop surpluses.

Commerce. Luther Hodges, 62, will become Secretary of Commerce. For the last 6 years he has been Governor of North Carolina.

The Commerce Department is involved in a wide range of activities dealing with business, trade, and transportation. Through the Patent Office, for instance, it helps to protect the interests of inventors. The Weather Bureau provides forecasts for airlines, ranchers, ship operators, and so on—as well as for the general public. Another Commerce Department unit, the Census Bureau, makes population surveys that are useful to many business concerns and government agencies.

Labor. Arthur Goldberg, 52, is to be Secretary of Labor. He has served as an attorney for the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), and for the United Steelworkers.

According to a government publication, the Labor Department's job is "promoting the welfare of the wage earners of the United States." Prominent among its branches is the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which collects and publishes figures on employment, wages, working conditions, living costs, etc.

Health, Education, and Welfare. Abraham Ribicoff, 50, will be the new Secretary in charge of this department. He has been Governor of Connecticut since 1955.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) is active in the fields indicated by its name. It includes—among other agencies—the

Public Health Service, the Office of Education, and the Social Security Administration.

During the weeks ahead, we shall present detailed biographical sketches of Cabinet officers mentioned in the preceding paragraphs.

Other Agencies

Atomic Energy Commission works on the development of nuclear weapons and on harnessing the atom for peacetime uses.

Civil Aeronautics Board regulates passenger fares and handles various other economic matters relating to airlines. It also has certain duties with respect to air safety.

Export-Import Bank of Washington makes loans to help finance American sales overseas.

Federal Aviation Agency enforces air safety rules and operates air traffic control centers.

Federal Communications Commission regulates the activities of radio and television stations, and of telephone and telegraph companies.

Federal Power Commission regulates electric utility firms and natural gas companies. It also cooperates with other government agencies in the development of federal hydroelectric power projects.

Federal Reserve System, headed by a 7-member Board of Governors, helps to supervise the nation's banks and to regulate our supply of money.

Federal Trade Commission works to prevent unfair trade practices, such as fraudulent advertising.

General Services Administration assists other governmental agencies in the handling of supplies, records, etc.

Interstate Commerce Commission regulates rail, truck, bus, waterway, and pipeline transportation.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration handles non-military space exploration projects.

National Labor Relations Board. Its main purpose is to enforce the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act on labor-management relations.

National Science Foundation awards scholarships in the fields of mathematics and science, and carries out other programs to further our nation's scientific progress.

Securities and Exchange Commission seeks to prevent unsound and

fraudulent practices in connection with the sale of stocks and bonds.

Selective Service System administers the nation's draft law.

Small Business Administration helps small companies obtain contracts to furnish government supplies. Also, under certain conditions, it lends money to such firms.

Tennessee Valley Authority operates hydroelectric power plants and a wide range of other projects in the Tennessee Valley.

U. S. Civil Service Commission operates the merit system—intended to ensure the employment of rank-and-file government workers on a non-political basis.

U. S. Information Agency tells our nation's story abroad by means of films, magazines and pamphlets, and "Voice of America" broadcasts.

U. S. Tariff Commission makes reports and recommendations to the President concerning tariffs and other foreign-trade matters.

Today and Yesterday

Presidential Inaugurations

AT midday on Thursday, April 30, 1789, George Washington left his residence in New York City—then the seat of government. He was on the way to inauguration as our first President under the Constitution.

Washington should have taken office March 4, shortly after Congress opened its first session. Travel by horse slowed many legislators, however, and the Senate didn't have enough members to count the electoral ballots for about 6 weeks. Another 2 weeks went by before Washington learned of his victory and reached New York from his Mount Vernon plantation.

Despite delay, the first inauguration set an example for splendor that has often been followed since. Washington rode from his house in New York to Federal Hall, then the Capitol, in a cream-colored coach drawn by 4 prize horses. Troops paraded ahead of him, and carriages with government officials and diplomats followed.

At the hall, Vice President John Adams (who had taken office earlier) escorted the President-elect to a balcony. There Washington took the oath of office before cheering, admiring Americans in the street. He then went inside to the Senate to make his

Veterans Administration handles veterans' benefits.

Landis Report

These last 21 governmental bodies, and a number of others, are not included either within the Executive Office of the President or within the 10 major departments. They are sometimes known as "independent agencies." In many cases, the President's control over such groups is relatively limited, even though he appoints the administrators and commissioners who head them.

A committee led by Dr. James M. Landis recently asserted that the Chief Executive should have greater authority over these units than he now holds, and that he should have a special White House assistant to help with their supervision.

As pro-and-con arguments arise over the Landis proposal, we shall discuss it further. —By TOM MYER

inaugural speech to a joint session of Congress.

Afterwards, the new executive went to a church service and—in the evening—to a display of fireworks. The crowds were such that he couldn't get to his carriage later, and he had to walk home in darkness. A week later, Washington attended the nation's first inaugural ball. (This gala event is now held on the night of the inauguration.)

The 1961 President-elect will go to his inaugural by car, not by coach. He will ride with the outgoing executive, Mr. Eisenhower, as is customary; Washington, as the first President, rode alone. The inaugural speech will be in the open this year, as is now the general practice. Even so, the program in 1961 will very much resemble that of the first inaugural over 170 years ago.

In one respect, Washington's example probably won't be followed. His first inaugural speech was only about 1,400 words in length, and took less than 15 minutes to read. His second, in 1793, was only 2 short paragraphs of less than 150 words. Speeches since have generally been longer. William Henry Harrison made one of the longest—lasting nearly 2 hours—in 1841.

Philadelphia was the nation's temporary capital after 1790, and Washington started his second term there. John Adams was also sworn in as our second Chief Executive there, but moved with the government to Washington, D. C., in 1800. Thomas Jefferson, in 1801, was the first President inaugurated in our permanent capital. The first inauguration outdoors on the East Front of the Capitol—the site which has since been used—was that for James Monroe in 1817.

Festivities for Andrew Jackson in 1829 were boisterous. Some 20,000 people crowded the White House for a reception, during which thousands of dollars' worth of furniture, rugs, and glassware were destroyed.

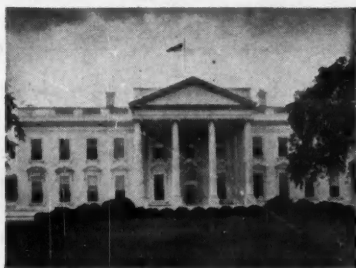
Among the longest inaugural parades have been those for Harry Truman, in 1949, and for Mr. Eisenhower in 1953, and 1957. They ran from 2½ to 3½ hours.

—By TOM HAWKINS



WARREN HARDING (second from left) was first President to use an automobile for trip to Capitol where he was inaugurated on March 4, 1921. Beside him rode Woodrow Wilson, the outgoing Chief Executive.

GOVERNMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH



Where President Lives



JOHN F. KENNEDY



Where President Works

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

WHITE HOUSE STAFF President's office staff 412	BUREAU OF THE BUDGET Financial Planning 429	COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS Studies nation's economy 32	NATIONAL AERONAUTICS & SPACE COUNCIL Air & space planning 9	NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL Foreign and defense policy 64	OFFICE OF CIVIL AND DEFENSE MOBILIZATION Civil defense, etc. 1,731
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THE TEN CABINET DEPARTMENTS AND LEADERS


STATE
 Dean Rusk
 36,265

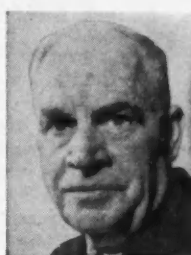
TREASURY
 C. Douglas Dillon
 75,421

DEFENSE
 Robert McNamara
 1,048,239

JUSTICE
 Robert Kennedy
 30,105

POST OFFICE
 J. Edward Day
 556,347

INTERIOR
 Stewart Udall
 49,605

AGRICULTURE
 Orville Freeman
 84,308

COMMERCE
 Luther Hodges
 35,429

LABOR
 Arthur Goldberg
 6,231

HEALTH, ED. & WELFARE
 Abraham Ribicoff
 59,928

SOME OF THE LEADING INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

Atomic Energy Com. Directs atom development 6,723	Civil Aeronautics Board Handles various aviation problems 730	Export-Import Bank of Washington Assists in foreign trade 226	Federal Aviation Agency Handles various aviation problems 34,581	Fed. Communications Commission Deals with radio, TV, wire 1,268	Federal Power Commission Gas & electric regulation 827	Federal Reserve System Supervises banking 584
Federal Trade Commission Fights unfair trade practices 743	General Services Administration Government supplies, etc. 27,511	Interstate Com. Commission Handles transport problems 2,306	National Aeronautics & Space Administration Space exploration 9,604	National Labor Relations Board Deals with labor problems 1,663	National Science Foundation Research & science education 547	Secur. & Exchange Commission Regulates stock market 959
Selective Service System Operates military draft 6,251	Small Business Administration Aids small business 2,137	Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric & other projects 13,980	U.S. Civil Service Commission Government personnel 3,573	U.S. Information Agency Tells America's story abroad 10,812	U.S. Tariff Commission Studies tariff questions 237	Veterans Administration Handles veterans' affairs 173,025

NUMERALS on this chart tell how many people are employed by the various governmental departments and agencies

The Story of the Week

Savang Vathana—King of Asia's Laos

King Savang Vathana of Laos is faced with the greatest threat to his tiny land since he ascended the throne in the fall of 1959. The 53-year-old monarch is fighting to keep Laos from falling under Red control (see page 1 story).

King Savang Vathana was educated in France, where he studied law. He began his career in public service in 1930 as administrator of a province in what is now Laos. Since that time, he has held many other important government posts at home and has represented his country at numerous international conferences.

The Laotian monarch has visited the United States and greatly admires our way of life. He is married and has 5 children—3 sons and 2 daughters.

What's Next in Our Relations with Cuba?

No one can say for certain what the long-range effect will be of the recent break in United States-Cuban relations. The move may encourage more of our Latin American neighbors to take similar action. Actually, Peru, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic closed their Embassies in Cuba even before we did. As of last week, other countries on this side of the globe were considering a similar move.

One thing is certain—the break in our diplomatic ties with Cuba will make it difficult, if not impossible, for additional Cubans to find refuge in the United States. Before our Embassy in Havana was closed down, thousands of Cubans were applying for permission to come here in the hope of escaping the repressive regime of Premier Fidel Castro.

President Eisenhower took this serious step because, in his words, "There is a limit to what the United States in self-respect can endure."

The move came after Premier Castro ordered a reduction in our Embassy Staff in Cuba to 11 persons. At about the same time, Cuba once again told the United Nations Security Council that the United States is preparing to "invade" the island country soon—a charge we brand as "ridiculous."

Belgium Faces an Uncertain Future

Tiny Belgium is confronted with a host of problems as 1961 goes into its third week. Strikes and demonstrations rocked the little European land at the start of the new year, and the outlook is for more trouble ahead.

The main cause of Belgium's troubles is the loss of the rich Congo colony. Before gaining its independence last summer, the African land provided the mother country with valuable resources and a market for manufactured goods. This source of income has now almost completely dried up. Belgium's loss of earnings from the Congo has caused unemployment and helped to create serious economic problems.

Because of these conditions at home, the government of Premier Gaston Eyskens is launching a "belt-tightening" program. Among other proposals, the Premier has been considering tax boosts and reductions in some social security benefits. Opposition to these measures has been largely responsible for the demonstrations in Belgium.

We shall discuss Belgium's problems at length in an early issue of this paper.

West Berlin Gets A Breathing Spell

West Berlin, located 110 miles inside communist-controlled East German territory, has won a breathing spell from the constant threat of a Red blockade. Moscow has agreed not to interfere with West Berlin's supply lines to the free world—at least for the time being—as part of a trade pact signed with West Germany a short time ago.

The trade agreement, which is an amended extension of one that was in force last year, also provides for



KING BAUDOUIN of Belgium—small European land with big troubles



DRAWN FOR AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

an increase in the exchange of goods between West and Red East Germany. Exports to the communist-ruled section of Germany will include machinery as well as a long list of such consumer items as radios and clothing. In exchange for these goods, the Reds will send oil, wheat, and coal to free Germany.

Guinea, Ghana, and Mali Seek to Form a Union

Guinea, Ghana, and Mali are working on plans that they hope will lead to an eventual union. Not long ago, leaders of the 3 lands—Sékou Touré of Guinea, Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, and Modibo Keita of Mali—announced a start toward such a goal.

President Touré, Nkrumah, and Keita have agreed to close cooperation on trade matters and global policies. They also hope to establish a common money system by March 1.

Guinea and Mali were former French colonies, and Ghana was once under British rule. All 3 lands have been supporting a number of Soviet global policies, and have established fairly close ties with Moscow. So far, however, they insist that they are and will stay neutral in the global struggle between western and Red nations.

Ghana, Guinea, and Mali, located in western Africa, have a total area of 661,543 square miles—about the size Alaska and North Dakota combined. The 3 countries together have a population of 11,246,000.

More Developments In 1960 Elections

President-elect John Kennedy has 3 more electoral votes to his credit. In a recount, Hawaii, with its 3 electoral ballots, was declared to be in the Kennedy column by a margin of 115 out of a total of 184,705 votes cast. Formerly, the island state had been listed on the Nixon side.

Meanwhile, the party line-up in the U. S. House of Representatives has also been changed in recent weeks to 262 Democrats and 174 Republicans. A recount of ballots in Oklahoma gave a House seat to Democrat Victor Wickersham. Earlier returns had favored Republican Clyde Wheeler, Jr.

Another House seat is still in doubt as we go to press. It is that of the 6th district of Indiana, where the balloting was extremely close between Democrat J. Edward Roush and Republican George Chambers. The ballots were still being checked last week.

Incidentally, in our December 5 issue we named William Goodloe instead of John Stender as the unsuccessful Republican opponent of Democratic Representative Don Magnuson of Washington. We regret the error.

De Gaulle Goes Ahead With Algerian Plans

French President Charles de Gaulle, as a result of the elections held a week ago, now has a free hand to seek a new solution to the Algerian problem. French citizens overwhelmingly voted in favor of the President's plan for ending the long-standing strife in Algeria.

In brief, General de Gaulle's plans call for direct peace negotiations with Algerian rebels, who have long fought for freedom from French control, and self-government for the African territory with an eventual choice among 3 alternatives: (1) union with France; (2) partial freedom but retaining close ties with Paris; or (3) complete independence.

Mystery Project Under Way in Israel's Negev

On a hillside in Israel's Negev desert area looms a large dome surrounded by construction equipment. Guards keep out visitors and ban photographs of the project under way there. It is here that Israel, with French help, is building a big nuclear reactor.

Is the Israeli project designed for

KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION WILL BE SPORTS-MINDED

PROBABLY no Chief Executive has been surrounded by such an athletic-minded group of top advisers as President John Kennedy will be after he takes office this week.

Mr. Kennedy's own sports likings are well known. He played prep school football, and at Harvard University was a member of the swimming team. He plays golf, and is an accomplished salt-water sailor who has admitted that an unfulfilled ambition is to take part in, and win, a Newport-Bermuda boat race.

For years, family gatherings of the Kennedy family have been enlivened by spirited games of touch football in which the wives would often join. A few years ago, Mrs. Kennedy suffered a broken ankle at this sport.

Robert Kennedy, the next Attorney General, was often the star of the family games. He is a former member of the Harvard eleven. Though

he lacked weight, he became a varsity end through vim and determination.

Among President Kennedy's advisers, the best football player, though, is unquestionably Byron "Whizzer" White, soon to become Deputy Attorney General. In 1937, White won All-America honors on the gridiron at the University of Colorado. A hard-running halfback, he then went on to gain All-Pro honors in the National Football League where he was the star ball-carrier of the Detroit Lions.

Top basketball player in the Kennedy Cabinet is Stewart Udall, the

next Secretary of the Interior. This tall and lean native of the Southwest was a fine court performer at the University of Arizona, and was a member of the first team from that college ever to play in the big tournament held annually in New York.

Today, Mr. Udall likes fishing as an active sport as does the next Secretary of State Dean Rusk, who also plays tennis and golf. Robert McNamara, soon to be Defense Secretary, has made skiing trips to the Alps, and enjoys mountain climbing.

When he was younger, J. Edward Day, the next Postmaster General, played baseball. He still gets in an occasional game of tennis. Douglas Dillon, who will become Secretary of the Treasury, is a former tennis player, and he enjoys golf on weekends. Abraham Ribicoff—soon to be Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare—also plays golf.



"Whizzer" White

making nuclear weapons or for peaceful uses of the atom? The Jewish nation insists that the reactor will be used only for peaceful purposes. Nevertheless, nearby Arab countries—that have long been involved in a quarrel with Israel—fear that she may be building a reactor for turning out nuclear arms.

Some American leaders, including Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield, are calling for a special UN inspection of the Israeli project to determine whether or not it is designed for making nuclear weapons. Such an investigation is needed, Senator Mansfield feels, to prevent rising distrust between Jews and Arabs from exploding into a new conflict.

The Senate and House Debate Rules Changes

Because of prolonged debates over changes in rules in both the Senate and House, the 87th Congress got off to a slow start in tackling the long list of legislative proposals of outgoing President Eisenhower and President-elect Kennedy.

Under rules in effect before this Congress met, senators were generally allowed to speak for unlimited periods of time on any subject. To curb debate, two-thirds of the members present had to vote in favor of such a move. When applied, this was known as *closure* (or *cloture*), and it limited each senator to 1 hour of speaking time.

When the present Congress got under way, many senators sought to change the rule so that a smaller majority of lawmakers could vote to limit debate.

In the House, a big fight broke out early in the session over the powers of the House Rules Committee—the body that decides which measures come up for debate by congressmen.

This committee has 12 members—8 Democrats and 4 Republicans. Since 2 of the Democrats often vote with the Republicans, supporters of President-elect Kennedy have feared that the committee would block a number of his proposals. So efforts were made in the



IN ALGIERS, French soldier shoos family off street during recent riots

early days of this Congress either to reduce the power of the Rules Committee, or put 1 or 2 pro-Kennedy legislators on it.

By the time this is read, a final decision may already have been made in the Senate or the House, or both, on changes in their rules of operation.

People, Places, Events Both Here and Abroad

France plans to set off additional nuclear explosions regardless of the mounting protests against such tests, particularly from Asian and African lands. Paris exploded nuclear devices in February, April, and December of the past year. Meanwhile, the other atomic powers—the United States, Britain, and Russia—have not conducted any nuclear tests, so far as is known, since the fall of 1958.

The *Constellation*, a giant aircraft carrier under construction that was seriously burned a few weeks ago, is now undergoing extensive repairs. The \$48,000,000 in damages caused by the fire is nearly three-fourths as

much as it cost us to wage the War of Independence against England in the 1700's.

The Republic of the Congo's President Joseph Kasavubu has called for a conference of his country's leaders to rewrite the constitution. The meeting, scheduled for January 25, is likely to be a stormy one because of the sharp differences among various opposing factions in the Congo.

Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld has been trying to end the strife in the African country. Despite efforts along this line, there have been an increasing number of clashes between supporters of President Kasavubu and followers of imprisoned ex-Premier Patrice Lumumba.

When John Kennedy becomes our next President, there will be 3 men living who had formerly taken the oath of office as U. S. Chief Executive. They are outgoing President Eisenhower, plus Harry Truman and Herbert Hoover. A record number of 5 ex-Presidents were alive when Abraham Lincoln took the oath of office in 1861. They were Martin Van Buren, John Tyler, Millard Fillmore, Franklin Pierce, and James Buchanan.

Choosing Senators—When Vacancies Occur

When President-elect John Kennedy resigned from the U. S. Senate, he suggested the name of a friend—44-year-old Benjamin Smith—to take his place on Capitol Hill. Massachusetts Governor Foster Furcolo has now named Mr. Smith to serve until the next regular elections are held in the Bay State in November 1962.

Mr. Smith's appointment once again puts the news spotlight on the way in which senators are chosen. Members of that body have been elected directly by the people only since the 17th Amendment to our Constitution was adopted in 1913. Prior to that time, senators were chosen by state legislatures.

If a vacancy occurs in the Senate—as it did when Mr. Kennedy resigned from that body last month—it may be filled by special election, or by temporary appointment by the governor. Most states, but not all, use the second method.

Readers Say—

As most Americans know, the past election was just about the closest in our history. Perhaps, in view of this, the average citizen will realize that his vote is needed.

THERESE SENESE,
Chicago, Illinois

I believe in rights of the individual. Such rights can be endangered by federal grants to states. Such financial assistance can lead to complete federal power over the nation. The people of our country already rely too much on the government in Washington, D. C.

JUNILLE WIETING,
Grapeland, Texas

If a person is old enough to help defend his country in the armed services, he is old enough to help choose the nation's leaders. The voting age should be set at 18 in all our states.

CAROLE HAUF,
Edgar, Montana

Prices are rising again. If wages go up again, will there be more increases in the cost of living? I think we should keep hourly wages as they are now.

CLAYTON WILHELM,
Edgar, Montana

[Our thanks to these other students at Edgar for their fine letters, which space limitations kept us from printing: Jane Gerber, Marilyn Oswald, Elsie Kern, Charles Aggers, Gary Beals, Duane Barr, Sylvia Cowan, Charlene Turnspley, Kenny Gruel, Gary Krug, Diana Stephenson.]



Cities are certainly in need of urban improvement projects, but they should be carried on by the cities for the most part. Similarly, sources other than the federal government should be found for helping build new schools. Lastly, the farmer should not be a ward of the government, and I believe he does not want to be such. Federal farm-aid programs have not succeeded.

ROBERT TAYLOR,
Greenville, Ohio

Perhaps the electoral college should be abandoned—but, since we have it, let us keep it under the Kefauver plan. The electoral votes would remain, but would be divided among candidates in proportion to popular votes. This seems fair to me.

DONALD TIELSEN,
Evansville, Indiana

It angers me that some Americans don't go to the polls because they feel that their vote won't make a difference. Closeness of the recent Presidential election shows the vital importance of casting ballots.

MARY ANN CAHILL,
Seattle, Washington

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Someone comments: "Wouldn't it be great if Vice President Richard Nixon were to form a law partnership with former President Harry Truman and former Governor Thomas Dewey?"

"Then they could call the firm 'Tom, Dick and Harry.'"



"A sympathy card from his teacher—it's for me."

"Do you know your blood type?"
"Yeah. Tired."

Joe: What are Pete's special talents?
Bob: He should be quite an authority on interplanetary travel. The only thing he's taken up in school is space.

The personnel manager turned to the young man seeking a job.
"Tell me," he said, "what have you done?"
"Me?" answered the startled applicant.
"About what?"

A Western TV actor noticed a small boy who was visiting the movie set with his parents. He went up to the lad and said: "Well, son, I guess you would like to have an autograph."
"No," the boy answered, "but what do you do with the horses after the riders are shot?"

When a little bird tells you something, don't repeat it until you find out whether or not the little bird is a cuckoo.

Sam: Good river for fish?
Fred: It must be. I can't persuade any of them to come out.



LAOS IS TINY LAND in comparison with neighboring Red China, but communist effort to take power there has threatened to provoke a major war

War in Laos Causes International Crisis

Attempts Are Being Made to Keep Civil Strife from Spreading

In the October 10 issue of the *American Observer*, we predicted that "if unchecked, the struggle now taking place in Laos may have serious consequences for the free world." In recent weeks, that prediction has come true.

CAN the civil strife in Laos be quelled without that country's becoming an international battleground? No more serious question has yet come to the fore in 1961.

Today, Laos is under intense pressure. Local communists have been receiving outside aid in their attempt to take over this Far Eastern nation. They are determined, sooner or later, to seize control of the entire country.

Meanwhile, the United States has been trying to bolster the non-communist government and its troops in Laos so that they can withstand the Red threat. Early this month, President Eisenhower alerted U. S. forces in the Pacific, and American officials consulted with our allies on the steps necessary to end the spreading civil strife in Laos.

Many observers fear that this remote kingdom could yet become another Korea. Americans well recall the bitter struggle that took place in the latter country—some 1,800 miles northeast of Laos—between 1950 and 1953. There the free-world forces suffered 455,000 casualties (dead or wounded) in opposing the Reds.

Whatever the outcome of the latest crisis may be—and all Americans fervently hope that a permanent settlement can be negotiated without further resort to arms—Laos is likely to be a source of trouble for a long time. Here, in question-and-answer form, we present some of the basic facts about that land and the critical situation prevailing there.

Why has Laos become a global trouble spot?

Its strategic position in the heart of southeastern Asia makes that country of vital importance in the global rivalry between the free world and the communist lands.

Laos touches upon 6 countries whose political leanings indicate the differing pressures being felt throughout the area. On the north, it borders the communist nations of mainland China and North Viet Nam. To the south it adjoins Thailand and South Viet Nam, free-world allies. It also touches on Burma and Cambodia, 2 nations that call themselves neutral in world affairs.

Laos is too small and weak to be able to go its own way without feeling pressure from its neighbors. About 91,500 square miles in size, it is only slightly larger than the state of Idaho, and is one of the most underdeveloped countries in the world. Yet, this land of jumbled mountains, semi-tropical forests, and placid rice paddies finds itself a buffer state in the cold war.

U. S. officials fear that communist control of Laos would open the way for the Red tide to sweep into the rest of southeastern Asia. Should this whole region—rich in tin and rubber—become part of the communist empire, the free-world cause would suffer a crushing setback.

How do the people of Laos feel about the struggle in their country?

Most of that land's easy-going people want only to be left alone to raise a little rice and fruit, to catch a few

fish in the rivers, and—in short—to follow peaceful and quiet lives. Knowing little or nothing of the outside world, the majority do not understand the issues that underlie the strife in their country.

So poorly developed is this Asian nation that a real census has never been taken. Population estimates range from 1,500,000 upward. Most Laotians live in stilt-supported, bamboo houses along the Mekong River or other waterways. About a third of the people are mountain tribesmen.

While most Laotians are unwilling victims of a struggle that is beyond their understanding, a minority is directly concerned with the spreading strife. One group favors close bonds with the United States, while another wants Laos to be tied to the communist lands. Still another group wants the country to follow a neutral course. These are the main forces involved in Laos' civil war.

Why did fighting erupt in Laos?

It all goes back to the period right after World War II. At that time, France controlled Laos, Viet Nam, and Cambodia. The 3 states made up the region known as French Indochina, which had been ruled by Paris for many years.

But like so many other colonial peo-

ples, the Indochinese demanded their independence following World War II. The French tried to hang onto their Far Eastern territories, and an 8-year struggle followed. By playing a leading role in the rebellion, native communists in Laos and other parts of Indochina strengthened their own position. In 1954, France became fed up with the struggle, and a treaty was signed at Geneva, Switzerland, ending the war.

What did the Geneva Treaty provide?

France gave up control of Indochina. That part of Viet Nam north of the 17th parallel became a communist country. The section of Viet Nam to the south became an independent land which allied itself with the free world. Laos and Cambodia also became independent countries.

At the same time, an International Control Commission was set up to supervise the peace settlement in Laos. It consisted of representatives of India, Canada, and Poland. The Commission disbanded in 1958 after its mission seemed to be accomplished.

The United States took part in the Geneva Conference but did not sign the treaty. Other countries that participated were France, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and Red China. Representatives of the 3 Indochinese states that were granted independence also took part.

Why was there continuing conflict in Laos?

After that little nation became independent in 1954, a government that leaned toward cooperation with the western powers was established. However, Red influence was strong in certain northern provinces bordering North Viet Nam.

Several hundred communist troops, who had played a prominent part in the rebellion against France, set up camp in northern Laos. They became known as the Pathet Lao. The government found it impossible to defeat them by arms, or to reach any settlement with them.

(Concluded on page 8)



AMERICAN MISSIONARY (left) talks with some young people of Laos

WIDE WORLD

See, Read and Hear

TV SCHEDULES. All times given are Eastern Standard. Check local listings for times in your community.

January 22, Sunday. ABC, 1:30 p.m. Democratic governors Matthew Welsh of Indiana and Terry Sanford of North Carolina appear with Republican governors Elmer Andersen of Minnesota and F. Ray Keyser, Jr., of Vermont on "Issues and Answers" for interviews. CBS, 4 p.m., Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic. NBC, 6 p.m., "Meet the Press." ABC, 9:30 p.m., "The Red and the Black," a documentary on the struggle between free and communist nations for influence in Africa.

January 23, Monday. NBC, 7:30 p.m., "The Americans," a historical series on the Civil War.

January 24, Tuesday. NBC, 10 p.m., "Life in the 30's," a documentary on the critical depression years before World War II. This is a repeat of a popular show that was last presented on TV in August 1960.

January 29, Sunday. ABC, 12 p.m., "Meet the Professor," a new public affairs program on teachers in colleges. Each week the series will feature an outstanding college or university teacher. NEA and the Association for Higher Education are cooperating in producing this show.

THANKS to NBC for pioneering with opera on TV in English! Congratulations are due especially for the New Year's Day performance of "Deseret," a new American opera built around the life of Brigham Young, the Mormon leader of the mid-1800's. Here we have good music, fine singers, and an interesting story. This is probably the first American opera that stands a chance of ranking with Verdi and other masters of the past. It should be repeated soon, and we hope that it will.

TEEN-AGE DRIVERS. At what age they should have use of the family car, or one of their own, is a problem that most American families must deal with sooner or later. William Gwinn, who presides over ABC-TV's "Morning Court" program on juvenile cases (11 a.m., Monday through Friday), has some rules laid down for his son.

No teen-ager, says Mr. Gwinn, should be allowed use of a car unless he is earning the best grades in school of which he is capable. Also, under these rules, the young boy or girl must demonstrate a responsible, considerate understanding of other citizens in this big world.

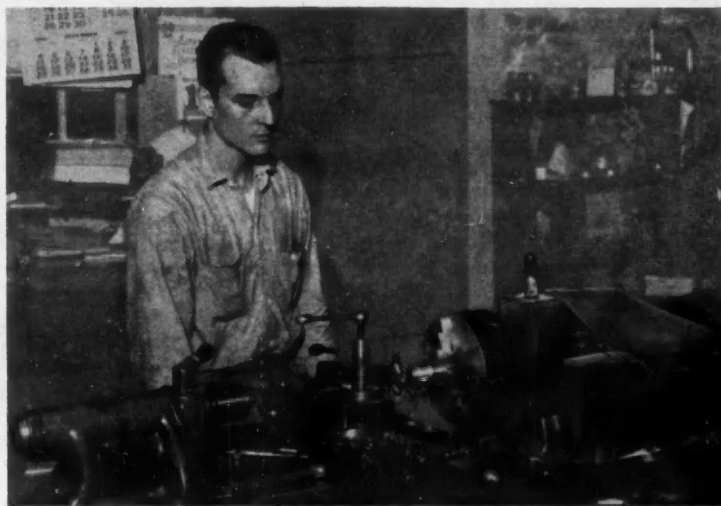
READING. Did you know that the Lincoln Continental—once the biggest of cars—is slightly smaller this year than a 1960 Ford? Have you heard that 1961 is being dubbed "year of the engineer" because of so many mechanical changes being made in the new automobiles?

You can read about the continuing trend to more practical, less bulky cars in January "Popular Mechanics" (35 cents at newsstands and probably available in your library). This issue is a jewel—the most complete report on changes in the automobile industry that we have read. There are stories and pictures on both U. S. and foreign-made cars, unusual hot rods, and classic cars of the past.

MOVIES. "Wackiest Ship in the Army," starring Jack Lemmon and Ricky Nelson, is a humorous tale of life at sea during World War II. "The Day They Robbed the Bank of England" is an exciting British film with an unexpected climax.

HEARD ABOUT the woman who asked her husband to build a bomb shelter with a picture window?

—By TOM HAWKINS



RONALD BIRCH, machinist, uses a lathe in a Washington, D. C., shop

Interviews on Careers

Machinists in Demand

RONALD Birch is a journeyman machinist employed by the Cauten and Slocum Company in Washington, D. C. Because of his outstanding qualities as a machinist and citizen, he was named Apprentice of the Year in 1959.

"I usually get to work shortly before 8:00 in the morning," Mr. Birch reports. "First, I get ready by changing from my street clothes into my work outfit, including special shoes that protect my feet in case I drop heavy objects on them."

"My first task on the job is to check over the work schedule for the day. If there are 'trouble calls'—calls for emergency repair jobs—I check into these immediately. That means getting the truck and equipment ready and driving to the plants where machines need repairs."

"In checking over the disabled machine, I determine if it needs new parts or if the old one can be welded or otherwise repaired. If a new one is required, I take the worn-out part to our shop and use it as a pattern to make another one."

"When I am not out on trouble calls, I spend my time in the shop making new parts or doing repair work. At times, I also try out new designs for equipment such as a drill or motor, and try to make improvements in existing machines."

"A machinist's job is seldom routine. When assigned a piece of work, he must lay out his materials, decide which tools are to be used, follow a blueprint in cutting new parts, and smooth and finish the parts according to rigid specifications. Always he must do his work accurately. A very slight error in measurement can ruin an expensive piece of metal and may cost the employee his job."

Qualifications. "This is highly exacting work," Mr. Birch points out, "and it requires a good deal of patience plus steady nerves. Manual dexterity and ingenuity are also needed for success in this trade."

Preparation. Vocational courses offer a good background, but they are not considered thorough enough to qualify a young man as a journeyman machinist. A 4-year apprenticeship is usually required. This program includes on-the-job training as well as classroom study in blueprint reading, mathematics, mechanical drawing, and similar subjects.

If you are looking forward to becoming a machinist, you should take a general course in high school with emphasis on mathematics, physics, chemistry, and machine shop if it is offered.

Job outlook. "A qualified man can always get a job," Mr. Birch reports. "Machinists are in demand because almost every product put on the market has some part in it that is made by machines—equipment that must be made and repaired by trained men."

As a rule, opportunities for promotion are good. Most foremen and many other supervisory employees in machine shops start their careers as apprentices. Machinists with executive ability can reach high administrative positions in industry. Those with business ability can establish their own shops.

Earnings. Pay scales vary from job to job and from one part of the country to another. The average machinist earns close to \$3.00 an hour, or about \$120 for a 40-hour week.

Facts to weigh. "I like the work because it provides me with new and interesting things to do almost every day," Mr. Birch says. "Besides, it gives me a sense of accomplishment to be able to put important machines back into working order. In addition, the pay is good."

"Of course, the work can be physically tiring at times, especially when it involves lifting heavy parts. There are also some hazards involved in working with big, powerful machines. And, of course, if you don't like to get grease and oil on your hands and clothes, this is not the job for you."

More information. Talk to machinists in your area. Information on apprenticeships may be obtained from the local office of your State Employment Service or from nearby machine shops. —By ANTON BERLE

Pronunciations

Baudouin—bō-dwān'
Boun Oum—bōn ōm
Chou En-lai—jō ēn-lī
Dag Hammarskjöld—däg hām'er-shult
Gaston Eyskens—gās'tūn ī'skēns
Laos—lous or lā'ōs
Laotian—lā-ō'shūn
Modibo Keita—mō-dē'bō kā'tā
Pathet Lao—pā-tēt lou or lā'ō
Phoumi Nosavan—pō-mē nōs'ā-vawn
Savang Vathana—sā-vāng vā-tā-nā
Souvanna Phouma—sō-vān'ā pō-mā

KNOW THAT WORD!

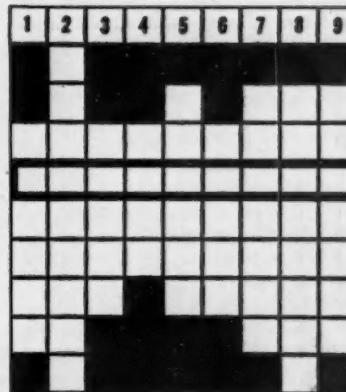
In each of the sentences below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase which has the same general meaning. Correct answers are on page 8, column 4.

1. Debate over the merits of the program became *protracted* (prō-trākt'ēd). (a) boring (b) prejudiced (c) prolonged (d) bitter.
2. A trip abroad can be *edifying* (ēd'i-fi-ing). (a) expensive entertainment (b) inspiring and educational (c) unrewarding (d) unforgettable.
3. The rate of interest charged on the loan was *exorbitant* (ēg-zor'bī-tānt). (a) excessive (b) fair (c) low (d) customary.
4. A *conciliatory* (kōn-sil'i-ā-tō'ri) note was sent to the foreign government. (a) final (b) friendly and pacifying (c) stern and demanding (d) challenging.
5. The disagreement was *resolved* (rē-zōlv'd) after a heated debate. (a) unsettled (b) returned for study (c) settled (d) referred to the President.
6. There is evidence of a *schism* (siz'm) between Russia and Red China. (a) trade pact (b) split (c) secret agreement (d) military race.
7. Committee members greeted the proposals with *acrimonious* (āk'ri-mō-ni-ūs) comments. (a) intelligent (b) loud and boisterous (c) complimentary (d) angry and bitter.

CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE

Fill in numbered rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell the _____, an important national event.

1. Douglas _____, new Secretary of the Treasury.
2. Capital of Laos.
3. Arthur Goldberg is Mr. Kennedy's Secretary of _____.
4. Dean _____, new Secretary of State.
5. Capital of Colombia.
6. A western neighbor of Laos.
7. In 1921, this President was first to ride in an auto to the Capitol for his inauguration.
8. Southern neighbor of Laos.
9. This European land has been troubled by riots and strikes.



Last Week

HORIZONTAL: Lemnitzer. VERTICAL: 1. pulp; 2. Superior; 3. Lima; 4. McNamara; 5. Eskimos; 6. Pentagon; 7. zinc; 8. Erie; 9. iron.



TROOPS LOYAL TO GOVERNMENT of Laos in fight against Red forces march to battle stations

Civil War in Remote Laos Causes International Crisis

(Concluded from page 6)

Despite the constant threat posed by the Pathet Lao, the pro-Western government was able to stay in power until last summer. Then, in August, Kong Le, a Laotian army captain who opposed his country's ties with the United States, seized the capital city of Vientiane in a sudden move. He installed Souvanna Phouma, a neutralist, as Premier.

A short time later, General Phoumi Nosavan, Minister of Defense in the ousted government, formed a resistance group. Last month his forces attacked and took over Vientiane. Boun Oum, a prince who favors close ties with the United States, became the new Premier.

How did the big powers become involved in the civil conflict?

The United States helped the pro-Western government that ruled Laos from 1954 to August 1960. Our aid of about \$40,000,000 a year went mainly for equipping and training the army. Early last fall, we supplied arms for Nosavan's resistance group, and have furnished funds to pay his soldiers.

The Soviet Union has been parachuting supplies and arms—including artillery pieces—to the Pathet Lao and to Kong Le's troops, who are co-operating with the Pathet Lao. Boun Oum's government has reported that several battalions of communist troops have entered northern Laos from North Viet Nam. Since the boundary is in a remote wooded area, it is difficult to tell exactly how much help the Pathet Lao is receiving from communist regions to the north.

Another threat is posed by the possibility of Red China's sending troops to support the Pathet Lao. Chinese Premier Chou En-lai recently called for action by "peoples concerned about peace in Indochina."

What can be done to keep the Laotian conflict from becoming a global war?

That question has been the subject of intensive discussions among U. S. and other western officials.

We could, of course, withdraw our support from Boun Oum, but this would be a tremendous blow to U. S. and western prestige. In effect, it would be a "go ahead" signal for the communists to take over the rest of southeastern Asia. Without doubt, we shall continue by one means or another to resist communist pressure in Laos.

Another possible approach would be to increase our aid to Boun Oum's forces by sending U. S. troops to fight alongside them. Any military action would probably be taken through the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO). Formed in 1954 to oppose communist aggression in the region south of China, SEATO includes as members, the United States, Great Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

Military action seems unlikely, however, except as a last, desperate resort after all other approaches have failed. Most of our allies seem reluctant to support such a step; and if we acted alone, our forces might get bogged down in a long, grueling war such as the Korean conflict. Moreover, outright intervention on our part would encourage Red China and perhaps the Soviet Union to send troops into Laos.

The most likely approach seems to be some form of collective action—in which our allies would back us—aimed at negotiating a settlement. As these words are written, a move is under way to set up the International Control Commission again. Its first tasks would be to arrange a cease-fire, and

then to see that the truce was respected.

Our major allies favor such a move. It is felt that Russia might agree to it, although she wants the nations that set up the International Control Commission to meet rather than the Commission itself.

Recalling the long, drawn-out wrangles that have taken place at meetings in which communists took part, our leaders feel that a gathering of the nations which met at Geneva in 1954 would not be successful (these countries included Red China and Russia).

Nor are U. S. officials too enthusiastic about setting up the International Control Commission again. When that group was meeting from 1954 to 1958, communist Poland and India usually sided together against the other member, Canada.

At the same time, our leaders know that during the past 2 years India has felt Red Chinese aggression at firsthand along its northern borders. They feel that the Indian member of the Control Commission might now take a different position.

If the Control Commission should be called into action again and should bring about a truce, the next step would be to establish a stable government. Great Britain is said to feel that a combined, or coalition, government with communist representation as well as pro-Western members should be formed in Laos, and that the country should then become a neutral state, siding neither with the communists nor with the free world.

The United States has no objections to Laos' becoming neutral—providing it would remain so. However, our leaders fear that any government with communist representatives would eventually be taken over by the Reds and would slide into the communist camp.

—By HOWARD SWEET

News Quiz

Kennedy Administration

1. Briefly describe the National Security Council and tell of its work.
2. List 3 or more other agencies within the Executive Office of the President.
3. Name at least 4 of Mr. Kennedy's Cabinet appointees, and tell what position each occupies.
4. What are the principal duties of the Justice, Interior, and Commerce Departments?
5. Tell the role played by the Federal Reserve System. By the Securities and Exchange Commission.
6. Mention at least 4 other "independent agencies" of the U. S. government.
7. With respect to the independent agencies, what has Dr. James M. Landis' committee recommended?

Discussion

1. There has been considerable talk about the possibility of establishing a new U. S. Department of Urban Affairs to help large cities with their problems. What do you think of the idea?
2. From what you now know of Mr. Kennedy's "team," do you think he has made a good set of Cabinet appointments? Why or why not?

Conflict in Laos

1. What makes Laos of such great strategic importance?
2. Name the 4 nations that came into existence under the Geneva Treaty of 1954.
3. Identify the Pathet Lao.
4. How has government leadership in Laos changed since last summer?
5. In what ways are the United States and Russia involved in that country's troubles?
6. If military action should be taken by the western lands, through what organization would it probably be channeled?
7. What 3 nations were members of the International Control Commission, which was set up in 1954 to supervise the peace settlement in Laos?

Discussion

1. Do you think that re-establishment of the International Control Commission is the best possible approach to quelling the strife in Laos? Why, or why not?
2. How do you feel about the present extent of U. S. involvement in Laos? In your judgment, is the action our government has taken (1) too little? (2) too much? (3) about right?

Miscellaneous

1. Tell something about King Savang Vathana of Laos.
2. What are some reasons for our decision to break off diplomatic relations with Cuba?
3. Briefly discuss causes of the unrest in Belgium.
4. Which 3 African lands are trying to form a union?
5. Why has Congo's President Joseph Kasavubu called for a special meeting on January 25?

References

- "The Presidency: 10 Fateful Decisions," *New York Times Magazine*, December 4.
 "The Agency Snarl," *Time*, January 6, page 16.

Answers to Know That Word

1. (c) prolonged; 2. (b) inspiring and educational; 3. (a) excessive; 4. (b) friendly and pacifying; 5. (c) settled; 6. (b) split; 7. (d) angry and bitter.

Next Week's Articles

Unless unforeseen developments arise, the main articles next week will deal with (1) where the United States and Russia stand in space exploration, and (2) pros and cons on diplomatic relations with such nations as Cuba and Red China.

